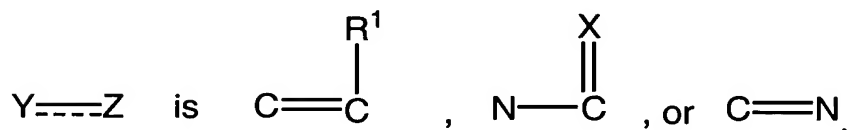
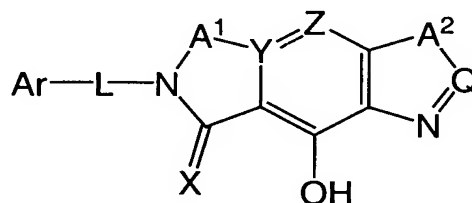


ABSTRACT

Tricyclic compounds according to the structure below, protected intermediates
5 thereof, and methods for inhibition of HIV-integrase are disclosed.



10 A¹ and A² are moieties forming a five, six, or seven membered ring. L is a bond or a linker connecting a ring atom of Ar to N. X is O, S, or substituted nitrogen. Ar is aryl or heteroaryl. Q is N, ⁺NR, or CR⁴. The aryl carbons may be independently substituted with substituents other than hydrogen. The compounds may include prodrug moieties covalently
15 attached at any site.